Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner

## **Media Contact:**

Clint Leach; jcleach@scda.sc.gov; 803-734-2210

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE- July 19, 2017

## SC Farm to Institution Announces Dates for Garden Workshops and Culinary Trainings

**COLUMBIA-** The South Carolina Farm to Institution program announces their workshop and training schedule. The workshops, geared towards child care center staff, school food service staff, teachers, and interested community members, focus on culinary skills training and gardening.

The culinary skills trainings have two formats, one specific to child care centers and one specific to school food service. Participants will follow along as South Carolina chefs demonstrate the importance of buying local, teach proper knife techniques and prepare several dishes using local, in-season fruits and vegetables.

The garden workshops consist of hands-on gardening training, designed for all skill levels and based on successful gardens in South Carolina.

## Workshop Dates:

- July 20- Farm to School Culinary Skills Training (combined course)
- July 27- Farm to Preschool Culinary Skills Training
- July 28- Farm to School Culinary Skills Training
- August 3 and 9- School Gardening Hands-on Workshop
- August 15- Farm to Institution Garden Workshop (with Clemson Extension)

The workshops are hosted in partnership with the Culinary Institute of the Carolinas at Greenville Technical College, the University of South Carolina College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management, Clemson Extension, and the Food Systems Change Initiative administered by the College of Charleston.

The South Carolina Farm to Institution Program aims to increase access to healthy, local foods and create markets for farmers throughout South Carolina by facilitating partnerships between farms and institutions to serve locally grown and minimally processed foods.

All workshops are offered at no charge to participants and registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, including workshop descriptions, locations, and how to register, visit scfarmtoinstitution.com.